

Tyler Nissen, at the Palermo Middle School in Palermo, California, to come address their class, the class belonging to Mr. Seth Davis.

I spoke to the students about the importance of individual civic engagement in our Republic and all things in Congress.

That is when it hit me: How does the public stay in touch with what we are doing here if they can't be in the gallery or visit Washington, D.C.? It really occurs that C-SPAN is an important aspect for people to be in touch, that network whose entire purpose is to allow those watching at home to be able to do so, to be involved in what goes on in the inner workings of this town and this process in Congress.

In the grand scheme of our whole country, it is actually fairly new, having begun in 1979. Today, nearly anyone can tune in or go online, on an internet connection, and be a part of the debate, thanks to the camera coverage we have in this room as well as in our committees.

As a nonprofit, unedited, and uninterrupted channel for all things Congress, even the Presidential inauguration or State of the Union Address, C-SPAN is an integral part of our Republic. I hope more people will partake of that great tool like the students are at Palermo Middle School—and Tyler Nissen and his classmates—to be in touch with what goes on in their government.

WHY ARE WE TAKING CHILDREN?

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, we are on the eve of Father's Day. Fathers and mothers, their greatest gift, in their minds, are their children. Their greatest loves are their children. The greatest willingness to sacrifice their lives are for their children.

Mr. Rodas asked the question: "Why are you taking him?" Mr. Rodas, an immigrant from Honduras, wanted nothing more than a better life for his wife and three children, and Edison was with him.

In a policy that could be more wicked than evil, this administration, with no legal grounding, has begun to snatch children away from their fathers and their mothers.

I know the policy. It was designed some years back for unaccompanied children. It was not designed for punishment, for taking children from parents who then do not know where they are and possibly the government not being able to find them.

Why are we taking him from his father? Why are babies crying in the night? Because mothers are separated, because they have been snatched away at the border in my State, the State of Texas.

We should cease and desist, Mr. Speaker. This is Father's Day.

Why are we taking children? The American people need to know, and the American people need to stand up.

HONORING LISA ROMERO-MUNIZ

(Mr. KIHUEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIHUEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to remember the life of Lisa Romero-Muniz.

Not only was Lisa the mother to her son, Anthony, but she was also known as a second mother to all the children she worked with. Lisa attended the Route 91 festival in Las Vegas on October 1.

Lisa was a discipline secretary at Miyamura High School in Gallup, New Mexico. The students she worked with remember her as a woman who looked out for children dealing with personal issues and for never turning her back on a kid who needed help.

Lisa would give anyone the last dime she had with no questions asked and would treat everyone like they were family.

Lisa loved purses, Jason Aldean, and Las Vegas. She was always smiling, outgoing, kind, and considerate.

Lisa is remembered as being incredibly generous and always wearing her heart on her sleeve.

I would like to extend my condolences to Lisa Romero-Muniz' family and friends. Please know that the city of Las Vegas, the State of Nevada, and the whole country grieves with you.

OPIOID CRISIS AND PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES

(Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, this is opioids week, yet we are not considering any bill that would rein in the pharmaceutical companies, whose greed caused and perpetuated the epidemic.

Many of these companies have used unethical and illegal practices to generate record-setting profits. They have bribed doctors, lied to patients about the effects of opioids, and ignored millions of illegally trafficked pills. Meanwhile, the costs of the epidemic fall on States, cities, counties, hospitals, courts, and local communities that do not have the resources to keep up.

I have introduced legislation that would make pharmaceutical companies part of the solution by imposing a small 1-cent fee on opioid production. The estimated \$2 billion in revenue raised could be used to fund a variety of prevention, treatment, and research programs that would save countless lives.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to finally hold these companies accountable for their role in the opioid epidemic and make them give back to the communities and families that have been destroyed.

CRUEL ACTIVITY AT OUR BORDERS

(Ms. FRANKEL of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today, not only as a Member of Congress but as a mother, to say that I am outraged, I am heartbroken, and I am embarrassed by the barbaric activity of our government on our borders.

The Trump administration's zero-tolerance policy is cruelly ripping children from the arms of their mothers and their fathers at our borders. They are separating them for indefinite periods of time, often in unspeakable, unbearable facilities.

We have seen a lot of ruthless actions from the Trump administration, but this is as bad as it gets. I call it government-inflicted child abuse. I stand here committed, with like-minded citizens, millions of Americans across the country, condemning these actions and committed to keeping parents and children together when they come to the United States of America.

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ESTABLISHING A FEDERATION OF FREEDOM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. RUSSELL) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, this week, we saw major world leaders interfacing with the United States on topics covering the economy, diplomacy, and security engulfing the major hemispheres of the globe. Worldwide and domestic reaction suggests that no clear outcomes are perceivable. An uncertain and perhaps less secure future seems to loom.

Consequently, Americans today are faced with many questions, some formulated by ourselves and some offered by our world neighbors.

They ask: What is the role of the United States in the world?

We ask: "What right do we have to take on that role? What responsibility would we shed if we took no leadership in global affairs?"

Our allies and even our enemies may be asking: What can we expect from the United States in the future?

My own question would be this: How can the United States continue to be a force for good in the world?

To answer these questions, we need to look no further than how we govern ourselves and what we even believe is the purpose of any government.

What is the purpose of government? Simply put, it is to protect against evil, to execute justice against those committing wrong to others, to promote what benefits society, and to deter what harms it.